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SENSITIVE

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STATE DEPARTMENT FOR OES/ENV KERI HOLLAND

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SUBJECT: BRAZIL'S PROPOSED AGENDA FOR RIO-PLUS-20

REF: (A) STATE 36708, (B) 2007 BRASILIA 1935

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1.(SBU) On April 17, Environment, Science and Technology, and Health (ESTH) Counselor met with Brazil's Director of the Environmental Policy and Sustainable Development Division of the Ministry of Exterior Relations (MRE), Andre Odenbreit Carvalho, to discuss the Government of Brazil's views on an agenda for the Rio-plus 20 summit as requested in REFTEL A. Odenbreit identified three themes for the proposed summit:

- Stocktaking: The participants would take stock of what has happened since the 1992 Rio Summit and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). They would identify what has been accomplished to date, and what was not and discuss why.

- International Environmental Governance Reform: Brazil believes this summit should take up the topic of international governance. This would build on the body of work and discussions on the topic, including the 2007 conference in Rio de Janeiro on international environmental governance (REFTEL B) and the work of the UN group led by Mexico and Switzerland. He reiterated the position that Brazil presented in 2007 at Rio (REFTEL B). Brazil would like a framework agreement, which considered three pillars - environment, economic and social. He said they did not support the proposal of France for an organization focusing just on environment. Odenbreit added that Brazil's idea is not to create much new bureaucracy, but rather to have something akin to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). Further, he noted that there was not yet a convergence of ideas on international governance and was unsure what to expect to come out of Rio-plus 20.

- Challenges of Implementation: The conference would look at the challenges to implementing the goals from Rio 1992, WSSD and the Millennium Development Goals.

12. (SBU) Odenbreit said that Brazil was not seeking to interfere with, substitute, or impede the CSD's program of work or the work of any other fora. The Rio-plus 20 would be a separate and independent event. He stressed that it would add value by drawing high-level, political attention to the environment field.

SOBEL